

Applicant : Shackleford et al.  
Dckt. No. : 100110346-1  
Issued : n/a  
Serial No. : 09/977,985  
Filed : 10/17/2001  
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On Page 1, lines 18, please substitute the phrase “(CA-based RNG)” with “(CA-based RNGs)”;

In the claims:

Please amend claim 6, 12, and 13 as follows:

a candidate CA-based RNG; said truth-table-counting module also counting number of 1s and 0s  
of inputs of said truth table for said candidate CA-based RNG; and

a prescreening-module accepting or rejecting said candidate CA-based RNG based on an  
output or outputs of said truth-table-counting module.

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12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium on which is embedded computer software comprising a set of instructions for performing a method to reduce a search space for determining viable cellular automata based random number generator (CA-based RNG) [(CA-based RNGs)], said method comprising:

counting number of 1s and 0s of outputs of a truth table for a candidate CA-based RNG;  
counting number of 1s and 0s of inputs of said truth table for said candidate CA-based RNG; and  
accepting or rejecting said candidate CA-based RNG based on results of said counting steps.

13.(Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein in said method [((200))], said step of accepting or rejecting said candidate CA-based RNG comprises:

accepting said candidate CA-based RNG in response to all of the following conditions being met:

a difference of counts of 1s and 0s in said outputs of said truth table is less than or equal to a predetermined output difference threshold;

a difference of counts of 1s and 0s in said inputs of said truth table generating is for output is less than or equal to a predetermined is input difference threshold; and